

August 3, 1999

RETIREMENT OF ROGER W. PUTNAM, PRESIDENT OF THE NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding American, a true patriot, and veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States. On August 31, 1999, Roger W. Putnam will retire from his position as president and chief executive officer of the Non Commissioned Officers Association. On that date, Roger Putnam will bring to a close more than 40 years of service to the Nation and military members and veterans.

A retired U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major, Roger Putnam's military service was indeed distinguished and varied. He originally entered the Air Force in 1949 and served until his discharge in 1952. He continued his public service as a Detroit police officer before returning to the Army in September 1961. During the ensuing 24 years, he rose through the enlisted ranks to Command Sergeant Major in various assignments overseas, including Japan, Ethiopia and Germany, and within the United States. He is a combat veteran of both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Among numerous campaign and service awards, Roger earned the Silver Star for gallantry in action, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with 1st Oak Leaf Cluster and Air Medal (5th Award). Roger also earned and is entitled to wear the Master Aircraft Crewman Badge.

Roger is the Past President of the Enterprise Alabama Rotary Club and has been recognized by the Rotary International as a Paul Harris Fellow. He is a Past Chairman of the Commanding General's Retiree Council, Fort Rucker, Alabama, and has served on the Board of Directors of the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce and the Army Aviation Museum Foundation. Roger also served as vice president of the Community Bank and Trust at Fort Rucker and Enterprise, Alabama.

In March 1998, the NCOA International Board of Directors elected Roger to his current office as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Association. This position was preceded by membership on the International Board of Directors since 1983, including service as its Chairman, and as NCOA's Vice President for Field Membership Development.

Mr. Speaker, veterans of all eras, indeed all Americans, have benefited from the magnificent service that Roger Putnam has so unselfishly given to the Nation. I know that his leadership will be missed within the Non Commissioned Officers Association and veterans' organizations as well. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before the people's House and salute Roger for a job exceedingly well done. Thanks for your service, Roger, and may your days ahead be filled with happiness, prosperity and health.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN BRYAN L. ROLLINS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the exceptional services which Captain Bryan L. Rollins, U.S. Navy, has performed for the United States and for the county of San Diego. Captain Rollins' selfless devotion and patriotic performance make him a truly admirable American and one deserved of recognition by this body. It is for his outstanding service to our Nation and its citizens that I wish to congratulate and thank Captain Rollins.

Captain Rollins has had an impressive Naval career with each assignment more demanding and more impressive than the last. He served aboard the U.S.S. *Constellation* as the chief staff officer of Carrier Air Wing 14 with deployments to both the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean through 1987. In November of 1990 Captain Rollins assumed duties as commanding officer of the Sun Downers and was deployed once again to the Indian Ocean and to the Western Pacific. He amassed over 3,000 hours and more than 800 carrier landings aboard the U.S.S. *Carl Vinson* and the U.S.S. *Kitty Hawk*. While serving as navigator, and later as the executive officer, aboard the U.S.C. *Kitty Hawk*, Captain Rollins performed honorably in Somalia, the Persian Gulf, and Korea. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, four Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement medal.

In April of 1996, while serving as the commanding officer of Naval Air Station Miramar, home of the famed Top Gun aviation aggressor school, he was selected as the Chief of Staff for Commander, Navy Region Southwest. It was there that he was instrumental in the formulation and implementation of a regionalization plan which involved over 65,000 personnel and four full-scale Naval bases. In addition to consolidating and incorporating commands throughout San Diego, he established the Navy's first regional business office and developed business strategies which have become standard throughout the Navy-wide regionalization plan. His effective and efficient tactics have saved the Navy countless millions of dollars as it undergoes drastic changes nationwide. His management skills, foresight, and exceptional communication skills allowed him to gain widespread support for Navy operations throughout the community.

Captain Rollins' remarkable contributions to San Diego County, the United States Navy, and our country speak to his intellect, his professional drive, and his relentless pursuit of excellence. I wish him the very best success as he starts a new chapter in his life. Congratulations and, as always, "fair winds and following seas."

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RECOGNIZING THE ORDER OF THE NOBLE COMPANIONS OF THE SWAN

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in these troubled times of misguided values, when good is often called evil and evil called good, our nation cries out for examples of genuine virtue from which our citizens may take inspiration. That is why I am proud that my home State of New Jersey is the headquarters of the Order of the Noble Companions of the Swan; an international order of Christian chivalry dedicated to perpetuating traditional virtues in the modern world in memory of those Soldiers of the Cross who embarked upon the First Crusade with Godfrey de Bouillon to free the Holy Sepulcher.

Under the leadership of their Grand master, William Anthony Maszer of North Brunswick, New Jersey, who is a hereditary prince of Alabona-Ostrogorsk and Garama, the Order of the Noble Companions of the Swan has been raised to the high and noble estate of knighthood amongst Christian chivalry. The members of the Order have sworn solemn knightly vows to bring chivalric virtues into the modern world by preferring honor to worldly wealth, by being just and faithful in words and deeds and by serving as guarantors of the weak and humble through their private acts of mercy and charity.

The exemplary efforts of the Order of the Noble Companions of the Swan have brought them international recognition from the Russian College of Heraldry as well as the Diccionario de Ordens de Caballeria y Corporaciones Nobiliare in the Kingdom of Spain. Closer to home they have been honored and formally recognized by a Resolution of the New Jersey State Senate and count our Governor, Christine Todd Whitman, among their well wishers. Governor Whitman has observed that "the principles of chivalry are as relevant today as ever before" and expressed her hope that the Order's "efforts to preserve the notion of chivalry are rewarded by a renewed commitment to these values throughout society."

Mr. Speaker, I join with Governor Whitman in the fervent desire that the knightly works of the Order of the Noble Companions of the Swan shall continue to serve as an example of virtue in a modern world desperately in need of a moral compass. I would call upon all of our citizens to aspire toward the traditional virtues embodied in this noble Order.

RECOGNIZING FORMER U.S. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE THE LATE HENRY T. RAINEY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the extraordinary